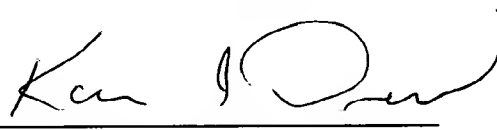


Remarks

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should there be any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM P. APPS ET AL.

By 

Konstantine J. Diamond

Reg. No. 39,657

Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Date: April 26, 2001

BROOKS & KUSHMAN P.C.

1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor

Southfield, MI 48075

Phone: 248-358-4400

Fax: 248-358-3351

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) [In a] A stackable low depth case for retaining and transporting bottles, the case comprising opposing side walls and opposing end walls forming an outer shell, [having a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis;] a case bottom disposed substantially within said outer shell, [; said improvement] the case comprising:

said side walls including a lower wall portion and a plurality of spaced upwardly projecting pylons, four corner pylons defining four corners of the case wherein at least one of the lower wall portions includes an upper edge and a lower edge each having a contoured shape substantially along the length thereof; and

a plurality of spaced upwardly projecting columns generally disposed within the outer shell defining, in combination with the case bottom, said side walls, and said end walls, a plurality of bottle retaining pockets, said columns and said pylons extending above the lower wall portions and below a top surface of the retained bottles [; and

at least one of said lower wall portions including an integrally molded logo].

2. (AMENDED) [A] The stackable case of [as in] claim 1 wherein [said logo] the upper and lower edges of the at least one lower wall portion substantially [defines] define an exterior surface of said lower wall portion.

3. (AMENDED) [A] The stackable case of [as in] claim 2 wherein said lower wall portion further includes a plurality of retaining tabs substantially defining an interior surface of said lower wall portion and extending upwards from said case bottom.